Dear Jim, 11/21/74

In a sense perhaps limited this is a day for celebrating. Ford has been overriden in his vote of the amendments to the FOI law and one of my suits is the first of four given by Teddy as the reason for the significant amendment (unless it has been compromised into nothingness since 11/30/74).

The Nader people finally learned and filed a really political suit instead of one limited to consumer issues and were able to release the results just before the vote.

They were not able to come up with the major answer required by the Senate, where to expected vote was close. When Jim raised this with me last week, after speaking to them, or earlier this week, the simple answer had escaped them all. The question was of cost and DJ had made an argument that found a receptive audience. The answer was simple. Instead of all these conjectures, ask DJ for the actual costs of all the suits in which they capitulated outside of court or lost in court.

People who deal with consumer issues and haven't learned that with cash it is always what is on the head of the barrel!

I missed the vote count because of interruption during the evening news. I had not listened to the news earlier in the day. The House vote was fine! (I think in part it reflects Congressional resentment at what Ford is and is not doing, that not 100% of the vote can be attributed to high principle on the issue.)

And until I see the text, I don't know what the revised amendments include or whether my other efforts were of any usefulness. I do know that the one book sent to the Hill while we were in Memphis was on that committee counsel's desk when the Nader people were visiting.

If I did not send you a copy of S 9336 of the Congressional Record for 5/30/74, one page of the original debate, I can. I haven't yet had time to read the entire debate.

Explaining the bitterness Nixon displayed with Warren (SFChron 11/6/74), from AP and not reported in anything I've seen) is impossible to me. I was home the day before but I may have missed the news.

Warren's telling ti to Goldberg is also meaningful. He wanted it out.

Your 11.16 is interesting in many ways and I'll comment on it. However, this has been a difficult day and I think I'd best do some reading/work before doing what is necessary to prepare for tomorrow's annual checkup. It has been a trying day because of the enclosed Bud letter, which simply isn't for real, has no relationship to anything, and was delayed, as I did not know until Lesar phoned after dark, ~~[illegible]~~ until Bud left town until I think Jim said the day before our May papers have to be filed, meaning until after they are completed and in the mail.

I simply can't make sense out of this. But unless Lesar has the strongest objections, I'll mail my letter tomorrow, after Jim reads it. The longer confrontation is delayed the worse the situation.

Aside from a truly sick and out-of-control ego and an inner resentment at from having done none of the work for which he got this coast-to-coast attention, the only thought that occurs to me is that with foundation support he'll be totally useless. Aside from the expenses he pays, not that much and only a fraction of what I tried to keep him from wasting, he has had no function in recent years. Except as a real problem.

However, I have to be more responsible than he. And do what he should be doing, without and having this obligation as the enclosed drafts show. I'll not send either without Jim's O.K. I'll see him tomorrow after the physical. Both should go. We must take the initiative and we again have the chance. But I'll not give Jim more procedures. He has too many for his experience now.

UPI did not pick up the copy of the book in three days. The Post apparently is going to have a story. (I haven't read the a.m. yet!) The local paper, which goes to AP Baltimore, will have a story I did not seek. The Star-News has a copy. We were from Waldron. Hope he got his and was not off on assignment. Zodiac will include the address for its clients.

Anyway, I'd gotten some writing done before all this started to happen!

Best,